

Dear legislators,

I am writing to ask that you support HB1111 and all other bills dealing with collision labor reimbursement rates and vote favorably.

I am not in the auto body repair business. I am an unrelated citizen who has become aware of the insufficient labor rates that collision professionals have been forced to charge for their services. It is to my benefit as well as every other citizen in MA to have a healthy business climate in which collision professionals can thrive and make a living. As with all businesses these days, costs keep going up and the increases have to be naturally passed on to the customers to allow the businesses to stay "in business". If collision businesses can't stay in business, natural market forces will allow the surviving shops to charge much more because of lack of competition. Additionally, if students in trade schools can't envision the opportunity to make a decent living in this trade, then they will choose another trade and we citizens will be left with fewer and fewer options to care for our vehicles (which nowadays have become the second most expensive asset that we own aside of our homes).

I am informed that car dealerships are able to charge significantly more for their labor than auto body shops...and this just makes no sense at all.

Please pass this bill and any legislation that might alleviate this gross disparity. The more auto body shops that we have in the Commonwealth, ...and the more jobs that these shops provide,...the better off we'll all be.

Thanks for your attention to the requests of this email.

Sincerely,

Robert G. Caprera